

EXPANSIBLE ROD-TYPE PROSTHESIS AND EXTERNAL MAGNETIC APPARATUS

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References:

U.S. Patent 4, 024, 588

U.S. Patent 5, 879, 386

**U.S. Patent Application "Expansible Prosthesis and Magnetic Apparatus",
Application Number 10/401,849, Rudolf X. Meyer, 16966 Livorno Drive, Pacific
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ABSTRACT

This disclosure is for a rod-type prosthesis that, once surgically implanted, can be expanded non-invasively and repeatedly by an externally applied magnetic field. It applies to patients with a bone disease of a limb where a section of the bone must be surgically removed. If the patient is still at a growing age, current medical practice requires repeated surgical interventions to periodically implant longer and longer rods to match the normal growth of the other limbs. Similarly, in the case of adult patients a repeated lengthening of the prosthesis is often required. The present invention avoids the need for these repeated surgical interventions since the rod prosthesis can be non-invasively lengthened when the need arises.

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Background of the Invention

The present invention refers to so-called rod prostheses. These prostheses are long, slender rods that fix relative to each other the positions of the two bone stumps that result from the removal of the diseased section of the bone. Present surgical practice